

TITLE OF THE INVENTION

DEMODULATION APPARATUS AND METHOD USING CODE TABLE THAT DECREASES COMPLEXITY

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

[0001] This application claims the benefit of Korean Patent Application No. 2002-81028, filed on December 18, 2002, in the Korean Intellectual Property Office, the disclosure of which is incorporated herein by reference.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

1. Field of the Invention

[0002] The present invention relates to signal demodulation technology, and, more particularly, to a demodulation apparatus and method using a code table in a soft demodulator, which decreases complexity and increases demodulation efficiency.

2. Description of the Related Art

[0003] Generally, in an environment utilizing high-density optical recording media, inter symbol interference (ISI) exists, and data is modulated using run-length limited (RLL) codes.

[0004] When conventional RLL codes are decoded, a channel demodulator, for example, a Viterbi decoder, detects code words from a signal input through a channel, and an RLL decoder decodes the code words into data words using a decoding table.

[0005] Recently, soft demodulators and soft decoders have experienced increased usage. The above-described Viterbi decoder directly outputs a code word, which contains an error and has only a value of 1 or -1. This method is referred to as hard demodulation. However, in soft demodulation, a soft channel detector receives a channel signal and outputs the probability value of a code word. In other words, the soft channel detector outputs an analog value such as 0.8 or -0.8 containing the probability of a code value being 1 or -1. A soft demodulator receives data indicating the probability value of the code word and outputs the probability value of a data word. Then, a soft decoder, such as a turbo decoder, receives and decodes the probability value of the data word, and forms the data word.

[0006] Turbo decoding requiring soft modulation was introduced by Laura L. McPheters and Steven W. McLaughlin ["Turbo-Coded Optical Recording Channels with DVD Minimum Mark Size", IEEE Transactions on Magnetics, Vol. 38, No. 1, pp. 298-302, January].

[0007] The following description concerns the operation of the above-described soft demodulator, which receives data indicating the probability value of a code word and obtains a log likelihood ratio (LLR) value indicating the probability of each bit constituting a data word. The operation will be described with reference to the table shown in FIG. 1.

[0008] FIG. 1 shows a decoding table having a code rate of 2/3 for RLL(1, 7) codes. The first row of the table shows 2-bit data words resulting from the decoding process, and the values shown below each of the data words are the code words corresponding to each data word. FIG. 1 shows an example of using a 9-bit code word in order to decode a 2-bit data word.

[0009] In order to obtain an LLR value, A Posteriori Probability (APP) ($d_k=1$) and APP($d_k=0$) are calculated. APP($d_k=1$) is a value indicating the probability of demodulated data d_k being 1, and APP($d_k=0$) is a value indicating the probability of demodulated data d_k being 0. When the length of a code word, which is used for determining a data word, is t bits, values of $r_m - (2 * c_m - 1))^2$ are obtained for the individual bits of a code word setting one bit of the data word to 1, and then the values are summed up. Here, $m=0, \dots, t-1$. APP($d_k=1$) is obtained by summing up the exponential values obtained with respect to all M code words, which set one bit of the data word to 1, as shown in Formula (1).

$$APP(d_k = 1) = \sum_{j \in S_1(k)} \exp[(r_m^j - (2 * c_m^j - 1))^2] \quad \dots(1)$$

[0010] Here, j indicates that a value of a j -th data word is 1, and $S_1(k)$ is the set of entries corresponding to $d_k d_{k+1}=10$ and entries corresponding to $d_k d_{k+1}=11$ in the table shown in FIG. 1.

[0011] APP($d_k=0$) is obtained in the same manner as APP($d_k=1$), that is, it is obtained according to Formula (2).

$$APP(d_k = 0) = \sum_{j \in S_0(k)} \exp[(r_m^j - (2 * c_m^j - 1))^2] \quad \dots(2)$$

[0012] Here, $S_0(k)$ is the set of entries corresponding to $d_k d_{k+1}=00$ and entries corresponding to $d_k d_{k+1}=01$ in the table shown in FIG. 1.

[0013] $\text{LLR}(d_k)$ is the exponential value of a ratio expressed by Formula (3). The ratio is defined as the probability that one bit of the data word d_k resulting from demodulation of a received code word is 0 to the probability that the one bit of the data word d_k is 1. $\text{LLR}(d_k)$ is an output of the soft demodulator.

$$\begin{aligned}\text{LLR}(d_k) &= \log\left(\frac{\Pr(d_k = 1|R)}{\Pr(d_k = 0|R)}\right), \quad R = r_0, r_1, \dots, r_{t-1} \\ &= \log\left(\frac{\Pr(R|d_k = 1)}{\Pr(R|d_k = 0)}\right) \quad \dots(3) \\ &= \log\left(\frac{\sum_{j \in S_1(k)} \Pr(R|C^j \text{ transmitted})}{\sum_{j \in S_0(k)} \Pr(R|C^j \text{ transmitted})}\right)\end{aligned}$$

[0014] When the assumption is made that the frequency of C^j in $S_0(k)$ is the same as that in $S_1(k)$, the probability $\Pr(R|C^j)$ is expressed by Formula (4).

$$\Pr(R|C^j) = \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma}\right)^t \exp\left[-\frac{1}{2\sigma^2} \sum_{m=0}^{t-1} (r_m^j - (2 * c_m^j - 1))^2\right] \quad \dots(4)$$

[0015] Accordingly, Formula (3) can be rewritten as Formula (5).

$$\begin{aligned}\log\left(\frac{\sum_{j \in S_1(k)} \Pr(R|C^j \text{ transmitted})}{\sum_{j \in S_0(k)} \Pr(R|C^j \text{ transmitted})}\right) &= \log\left(\frac{\sum_{j \in S_1(k)} \exp\left[\frac{1}{\sigma^2} \sum_{m=0}^{t-1} r_m^j * (2 * c_m^j - 1)\right]}{\sum_{j \in S_0(k)} \exp\left[\frac{1}{\sigma^2} \sum_{m=0}^{t-1} r_m^j * (2 * c_m^j - 1)\right]}\right) \\ &= \log \sum_{j \in S_1(k)} \exp\left[\frac{1}{\sigma^2} \sum_{m=0}^{t-1} r_m^j * (2 * c_m^j - 1)\right] - \log \sum_{j \in S_0(k)} \exp\left[\frac{1}{\sigma^2} \sum_{m=0}^{t-1} r_m^j * (2 * c_m^j - 1)\right] \quad \dots(5) \\ &= (\max_{j \in S_1(k)} \left[\frac{1}{\sigma^2} \sum_{m=0}^{t-1} r_m^j * (2 * c_m^j - 1)\right] - \max_{j \in S_0(k)} \left[\frac{1}{\sigma^2} \sum_{m=0}^{t-1} r_m^j * (2 * c_m^j - 1)\right])\end{aligned}$$

[0016] When max-log approximation is used as expressed by Formula (6), Formula (5) can be rewritten as Formula (7) because the same performance is exhibited even if $\frac{1}{\sigma^2}$ is ignored.

$$\log(e^{\delta_1} + e^{\delta_2} + \dots + e^{\delta_n})(\max_{j \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}} \delta_j) \quad \dots(6)$$

[0017] In other words, the $\text{LLR}(d_k)$ is obtained, as shown in Formula (7), by calculating a maximum value instead of an exponential value, when exponential calculation is complex, and calculating $\text{APP}(d_k=1)-\text{APP}(d_k=0)$, instead of performing the division expressed in Formula (3).

$$\text{LLR}(d_k) = \max_{j \in S_1(k)} \left[\sum_{m=0}^{t-1} r_m^j * 2(c_m^j - 1) \right] - \max_{j \in S_0(k)} \left[\sum_{m=0}^{t-1} r_m^j * 2(c_m^j - 1) \right] \quad \dots(7)$$

[0018] $\text{LLR}(d_{k+1})$ can be obtained by applying $k+1$, instead of k , to Formula (7), as shown in Formula (8).

$$\text{LLR}(d_{k+1}) = \max_{j \in S_1(k+1)} \left[\sum_{m=0}^{t-1} r_m^j * 2(c_m^j - 1) \right] - \max_{j \in S_0(k+1)} \left[\sum_{m=0}^{t-1} r_m^j * 2(c_m^j - 1) \right] \quad \dots(8)$$

[0019] Here, $S_0(k+1)$ is the set of entries corresponding to $d_k d_{k+1}=00$ and entries corresponding to $d_k d_{k+1}=10$ in the table shown in FIG. 1, and $S_1(k+1)$ is the set of entries corresponding to $d_k d_{k+1}=01$ and entries corresponding to $d_k d_{k+1}=11$ in the table shown in FIG. 1.

[0020] As described above, when the size of an APP decoding table used in the conventional soft demodulator increases, the time required for calculating an LLR also increases, and the APP decoding table becomes remarkably complicated.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

[0021] The present invention provides a demodulation apparatus and method using a code table in a soft demodulator, which decreases complexity and increases demodulation efficiency.

[0022] The present invention also provides a demodulation apparatus and method using a code table which decreases complexity in order to obtain soft demodulation results of a run-length limited (RLL) code.

[0023] Additional aspects and/or advantages of the invention will be set forth in part in the description which follows and, in part, will be obvious from the description, or may be learned by practice of the invention.

[0024] According to an aspect of the present invention, there is provided an apparatus which demodulates a code word having a second predetermined bit length greater than a first predetermined bit length, the code word resulting from modulation of a data word having the first predetermined bit length. The apparatus includes a code table comprising a plurality of the

code words, wherein similar ones of the code words are arranged to be grouped together; and a soft demodulator to calculate probabilities of individual bits that constitute the code words, and to generate a soft demodulation value of the data word.

[0025] According to another aspect of the present invention, there is provided a method of demodulating a code word having a second predetermined bit length greater than a first predetermined bit length, the code word resulting from modulation of a data word having the first predetermined bit length. The method includes using a code table comprising a plurality of code words, wherein similar ones of the code words are arranged to be grouped together; and calculating probabilities of individual bits that constitute the code words, and generating a soft demodulation value of the data word.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

[0026] The above and/or other features and advantages of the present invention will become more apparent by describing in detail preferred embodiments thereof with reference to the attached drawings in which:

FIG. 1 shows an example of a table illustrating a conventional soft demodulator;

FIG. 2 is a block diagram of a system which applies the present invention;

FIGS. 3A and 3B show an example of a conventional code table and an example of a code table that decreases complexity according to an embodiment of the present invention; and

FIGS. 4A and 4B show another example of a conventional code table and another example of a code table that decreases complexity according to another embodiment of the present invention.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

[0027] Reference will now be made in detail to the present preferred embodiments of the present invention, examples of which are illustrated in the accompanying drawings, wherein like reference numerals refer to the like elements throughout. The embodiments are described below in order to explain the present invention by referring to the figures.

[0028] Referring to FIG. 2, a system which applies the present invention includes an encoder 10, an interleaver 20, a modulator 30, a transmission channel 40, a soft demodulator 50, a deinterleaver 60, and an iterative decoder 70. However, various modifications can be made to the system. For example, the interleaver 20 and the deinterleaver 60 may not be provided, or a

soft channel detector, between the transmission channel 40 and the soft demodulator 50, may be further provided.

[0029] The encoder 10 encodes input data using predetermined soft encoding, such as Low Density Parity Check (LDPC) coding and/or turbo coding, for error correction. The interleaver 20 interleaves the encoded data in a predetermined order and provides the interleaved data to the modulator 30. The modulator 30 modulates the interleaved data using an appropriate method, for example, using run-length limited (RLL) codes. The modulated data is distorted after passing through the transmission channel 40, such as a recording medium, and then input to the soft demodulator 50.

[0030] The soft demodulator 50 calculates the probabilities of individual bits, which constitute a code word that is input through the transmission channel 40, and provides a soft value of the data word to the deinterleaver 60. The deinterleaver 60 deinterleaves the soft value and restores the data before it is decoded. The iterative decoder 70 performs soft decoding on the deinterleaved data according to the predetermined soft coding performed by the encoder 10, outputs the decoded data and additional status information indicating whether the decoding has failed or succeeded, and performs iterative decoding according to the additional status information, thereby increasing the performance of signal detection and error correction.

[0031] FIG. 3A shows an example of the conventional code table. FIG. 3B shows an example of a code table used in the soft demodulator 50 shown in FIG. 2, which decreases complexity by rearranging the code words shown in FIG. 3A. In the examples shown in FIGS. 3A and 3B, a 16-bit code word is used to decode a 2-bit data word.

[0032] As shown in the conventional code table of FIG. 3A, entries are simply enumerated in a single column, with one code word per row in the single column. However, in the code table according to an embodiment of the present invention shown in FIG. 3B, similar entries are arranged to be grouped together. That is, entries are arranged in a plurality of columns, with various numbers of sections per column, such that common portions of the code words are displayed in the same column, and common neighboring portions are written one time in each section. The number of calculations can be reduced by reusing the calculation results of the code table shown in FIG. 3B. In the code table shown in FIG. 3B, one column is divided into three columns. However, the column may be divided into two or six columns.

[0033] Although the code table shown in FIG. 3B has the same content as the conventional code table shown in FIG. 3A, since entries are efficiently arranged in the code table shown in FIG. 3B, the number of calculations and calculation time is reduced when a log likelihood ratio (LLR) is calculated. For example, assume that $S_1(k)$ shown in Formula (7) is a set of 8 elements, as shown in the conventional code table of FIG. 3A. When an LLR is calculated using the conventional code table shown in FIG. 3A, $8 \times 17 = 136$ additions or subtractions are required. However, when the code table shown in FIG. 3B is used, the number of additions or subtractions are reduced because only one calculation is performed for each common portion of the code words. For example, the result of one calculation on 000 000 is used four times, and the result of one calculation on 010 000 is used two times, without repeating the calculations. Accordingly, when the code table shown in FIG. 3B is used, $14 \times 5 + 12 = 82$ additions or subtractions are required.

[0034] FIG. 4A shows another example of a conventional code table. FIG. 4B shows another example of a code table used in the soft demodulator 50 shown in FIG. 2, which decreases complexity by rearranging the code words shown in FIG. 4A. In FIGS. 4A and 4B, which are more generalized than FIGS. 3A and 3B, each of the reference characters a, b, c, d, e, and f indicate three bits, and a 16-bit code word is used to decode a 2-bit data word. In the code table shown in FIG. 4B, one column is divided into two columns. However, the column may be divided into three or six columns.

[0035] When the LLR is calculated using the conventional code table shown in FIG. 4A, $10 \times 17 = 170$ additions or subtractions and 9 calculations of a maximum function are required. However, when the LLR is calculated using the code table according to this embodiment of the present invention, which is shown in FIG. 4B, $10 \times 8 + 2 = 82$ additions or subtractions and 7 calculations of a maximum function are required.

[0036] As described above, after receiving an output signal of a channel or a soft channel detector, the present invention uses an efficiently configured decoding table to perform soft demodulation on RLL codes and provide the same results of soft demodulation as the conventional technology, but with a smaller number of calculations and within a shorter amount of time.

[0037] Although a few embodiments of the present invention have been shown and described, it would be appreciated by those skilled in the art that changes may be made in

these embodiments without departing from the principles and spirit of the invention, the scope of which is defined in the claims and their equivalents.